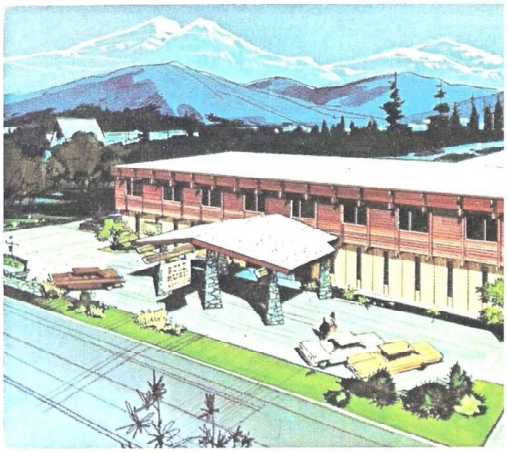
ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR
& POLAR NUMISMATIST VOLUME XLVIII, NO. 2, FEBRUARY, 2026
ALASKA RARE COINS, P.O. BOX 72832, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707 Phone 907 452-6461 email: alaskararecoins@gmail.com

See page 24

GOLD RUSH MOTOR LODGE

by David Reamer



Fifty years ago in September of 1975, two separate civic authorities, the Greater Anchorage Area Borough, or GAAB, and City of Anchorage, merged to form the Municipality of Anchorage. Not quite two powers alike in dignity, the borough and city alternately shared, divided and bickered over the governance of the Anchorage Bowl. In the history of Anchorage, history of the people who lived and live here, this unification matters. It was not just an arcane alteration to boundary lines and titles, but a significant change with a meaningful impact on people's lives. Indeed, before unification, people died because of this divide, fates affected by whether they were on the north or south side of an invisible line. Most notably, there was the 1970 Gold Rush Motor Lodge fire, the tragedy that did not inspire change.

The Gold Rush Motor Lodge opened in May, 1965, off Northern Lights Boulevard between Cheechako and Dawson streets. GAAB Chairman John Asplund and Anchorage Mayor Elmer Rasmuson worked together at the ribbon-cutting, a public relations gesture of unity that played well in the papers. Officially, the head of the borough government was a chairman, although many locals referred to them as mayors as well.

While not up to the standards of the Hotel Captain Cook, which also opened in 1965, the Gold Rush was yet another higher-end lodging destination in a still-young city. Each of the 74 rooms featured wall-to-wall carpeting, televisions and complimentary coffee and tea service. Per advertisements, the decor was "Gold Rush rustic." Gold carpets adorned the floors, while the public interior wall were California redwood trimmed with cedar. Sixty-foot long fir beams supported the ceiling, atop eight stone pillars, the fir from Washington and the stone from Alaska. The owners described it as the "largest all-electric heated motel in the Northwest."

There was also a dining room and Golden Whale bar, with walls covered in images of Alaska and Anchorage from de-

continued on page 21

David Reamer is co-author of the 2022 book *Black Lives in Alaska* and 2023 co-Alaska Historian of the year. He writes weekly for the Anchorage Daily News..

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

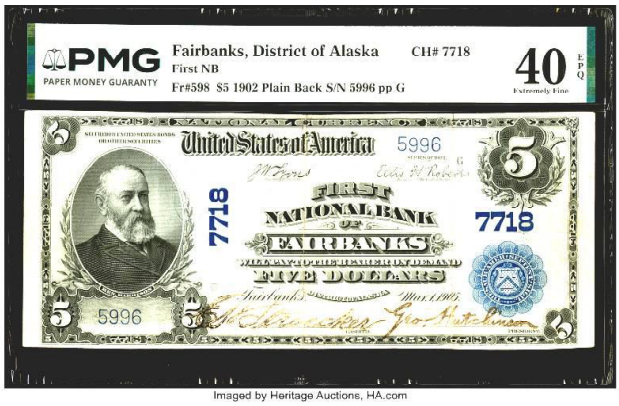
Our thanks this month to David Reamer for the Gold Rush Motor Lodge/Hotel article. I was surprised to find how few of these modern tokens we have in stock.

Not much happening other than gold and silver going bat-crap crazy. That is keeping us hopping at the store changing prices nearly every day. See pages 31 and 32 for a sale on Alaska silver medals.

I think the Homer News is a new addition to the LoC. They have issues from 1950-1955. So we picked up some information on a couple of Homer tokens.

eBay was quiet this month with nothing of note.

FAIRBANKS NATIONAL AT HERITAGE



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Ron Benice reports the sale of a First National Bank of Fairbanks $5 blue seal note at Heritage, graded EF-40 EPQ (Exceptional Paper Quality) for $17,690 including the 22% buyer's fee. Ron notes two heavy folds.

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United States	$30 per year w/PDF
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PRICES REALIZED

Selected prices realized from eBay:

Excursion Inlet, A&PSC Co., 5¢, B-1a	14.00
Gambell, Reindeer Comm. Co., 1¢, B-1a	9.95OB
Hoonah, Hoonah Pkg. Co., 5¢, B-1a	24.50
Nome, Polet Stores, 5¢, B-41b	40.28
Skagway, Idaho Saloon, 25¢, B-14c	9.95OB
Dawson, YT, Monte Carle, 25¢, B-17a	OB400.00NB

OB =Opening Bid; NB = No Bid; RL = relist; R = Reserve; RNM = Reserve Not Met; W = withdrawn BIN = Buy it now; BOA = Best Offer Accepted; DNS = Did Not Sell; SUP = sold, unknown price. FTR = see For the Record.

HOMER CLUB

Homer B-2a

Homer News, April 7, 1955

Harold and Electra Billups have announced that they are purchasing the Homer Club and Cafe from M.M. Lewis. The club will open under the new owners at 7 o'clock the evening of April 15.

The cafe will remain under the management of Mrs. Ethel Caulkins.

Lewis purchased the business last summer from Pete and Marie Bergsagel.

Homer News, April 14, 1955.

The Homer Club will open again Friday evening at 7p.m. under the management of Harold and Electra Billups.

For the opening night guests there will be free salmon, shrimp and crab legs, according to the Billups.

Homer News, April 21, 1955.

A good crowd of local residents was on hand last Friday night to re-open the Homer Club which had been closed for a few days for re-decoration by the new owners, Harold and Electra Billups.

The reverse die matches the die used to strike Tony's Recreation tokens from Barrow.

GOLD RUSH MOTOR LODGE, CONT.

cades prior. This was so long ago that it might have been the first bar or restaurant in town decorated with historic images, which is now a common feature. At the least, the Gold Rush managing director claimed the Golden Whale was the first such in Anchorage.

Northern Lights Boulevard was a primary border between city and borough. North of the road was the City of Anchorage. South of the road lay the GAAB. The Gold Rush was on the southern side, in the GAAB, though they advertised themselves as being in either Anchorage or Spenard. In the last 1960s, one of the first things new arrivals saw while leaving the international airport was a Gold Rush billboard, which also proclaimed Anchorage as the "crossroads of the air world."

In April 1969, three separate state fire inspectors visited the motel, each observing and documenting extreme fire hazards. One of the inspectors immediately wired his immediate supervisor: "Made cursory inspection of Gold Rush Motor Lodge this a.m. Building presents extreme life hazard in that it fails to meet minimums of State Fire Safety Code. I respectfully ask you to travel to Anchorage as soon as possible to assist in this matter."

Among the more severe violations, the motel was occupied while construction continued on the third floor. That work exposed the wood framing, which would have allowed any fire to spread more quickly throughout the structure. Far worse, the inspectors identified 239 fire alarm pull boxes installed across the motel, seemingly complete and functional. However, they were connected to nothing, a willful display of false safety that dated back to the motel's opening.

At least one of the inspectors discussed the issues with the Gold Rush management, not that the illusory fire alarms would have been a surprise. Yet, the official responses end there. No one from the state sent a list of such deficiencies, notified residents or otherwise announced safety concerns.

Early in the morning of January 13, 1970, a fire broke out at the motel. Unfortunately, the worst-case scenario happened; the "extreme life hazard" became a reality. The call went out at 2:31 a.m., and the first truck reached the scene at 2:34. No matter the quick response, the blaze was already out of control. In the colorful words

Archival image January 1970

Searing flames quickly destroyed the Gold Rush Motor Lodge on Northern Lights Boulevard, at the southern city limits of Anchorage on Jan. 13, 1970, sweeping from the front dining room area at the right of photo along the length of building, to the left in the picture. State Troopers reported that 34 rooms were occupied when the fire broke out, with between 40 and 43 persons in the building on the time.

of GAAB fire chief Bill Tonguet, "the fire went as fast as a freight train in high gear carrying potatoes to the New York market." And he described the all-wood motel as "built to burn."

The fire lasted for hours, as firefighters fought to control the inferno in frigid 10-below zero weather. Through 4 a.m., it remained out of control, and at 10 a.m., they were still hosing down the embers. As late as 1977, fire inspector John Glenn declared, "We have our suspicions as to who did it, and we are going to keep trying to solve the case," but no one was ever charged.

There were 43 guests registered at the motel that night. Without fire alarms, one of the night attendants, Donald Cochrane, ran up and down the first floor hallway yelling, "Fire." The fire was already raging when the second floor residents became aware.

Motel general manager David Grove occupied a room with his wife on the incomplete third floor. "I opened the door to the hallway, but there was too much smoke even to see." He broke out a window, and they jumped toward the first floor roof, which was icy. They slid to the ground. He broke an arm; she broke a hip and a heel.

Five people died that day because of the "extreme life hazard" that was the Gold Rush Motor Lodge. These deaths weren't forgotten, but as the flames were extinguished, another narrative dominated discussions. The Gold Rush was on the borough side of the border, albeit just across the line. The City of Anchorage also dispatched firefighters with a ladder truck to the scene. When borough firefighters met city firefighters at the seen, they argued as the fire and smoke swirled about

GOLD RUSH, CONT.

as a back drop. Though a few city firefighters broke ranks and found ways to help, the rest of the city crew and their truck sat on the other side of the road and watched, for want of a few feet in the wrong direction And they were there as five people died. One survivor briefly trapped on the roof claimed the city crew ignored his pleas for help, a version of events vehemently denied by city officials.

Before 1970 was over, the motel owners had a new establishment, the Gold Rush Hotel, which went on to earn it own infamy. It was the first Anchorage hotel with color televisions in its rooms.

Over the years, the hotel changed names and owners a few times. When it was closed in 2002 after more than 60 fire code violations, it was the Northern Lights Hotel. Then it sat, a notorious derelict until it was finally demolished in 2017.

There is a local myth about this fire, that the Gold Rush Lodge disaster changed the hearts and minds over unification of the GAAB and the City of Anchorage.

Unification votes failed in 1970 and 1971, before finally be approved in 1975.
David Reamer is co-author of the 2022 book *Black Lives in Alaska* and 2023 co-Alaska Historian of the year. He writes weekly for the Anchorage Daily News..

KIVALINA

Nome Nugget, December 26, 1925.
High water, rainy weather and fogs were detrimental in keeping reindeer herds from scattering. The fall gathering in and counting is in progress at present date. During the fall visit of Supt. S. Chance, Kivalina killed and shipped 123 reindeer on the U.S.S. Boxer. Chester Sevick, the manager of the Kivalina Reindeer Company very ably supervised the killing.

Kivalina, an island village some ninety miles north of Kotzebue has a population of about one hundred and fifty. There is a cooperative store and one native store.

Nome Daily Nugget, August 13, 1937.
Shipment of meat on the government motorship "North Star" enabled the Kivalina Reindeer Company to sell more reindeer product than was possible for any other Native organization. More than $13,000 was received by the Company from sale of skins and meat products.

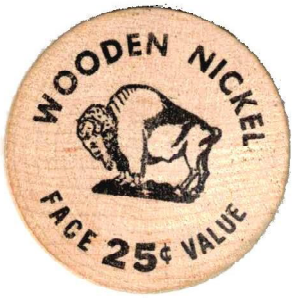
ALASICA

After months of seeing this wood on eBay listed as Alaska (?), I googled Long Rifle Lodge. And there it was at mile 102.2 of the Glenn Highway, variously shown as Sutton or Chickaloon.

How does ALASKA become ALASICA? Well, as best as I can tell, with hand writing, the K was interpreted as an I and a C (IC). Slide that C a little closer to the I and it becomes a handwritten K.

As to the muling with the Michigan wood, I guess crap happens.

WOODEN NICKELS NOW "LEGAL" TENDER



The Frontiersman, Palmer, September 3, 1959.
You've heard it again and again, "Don't take any wooden nickels." But for one time it will pay to do just that. Throughout the first Alaska State Fair to be held in Palmer during the coming four-day weekend, wooden nickels will be legal tender. The special "coins" have been secured by the corporation and will be sold at 25¢ each... and they will be worth 25¢ each. Many persons are expected to keep the special "coins" as souvenirs of Alaska's first state fair.

The Frontiersman, Palmer, July 5, 1962.
Nation's Teachers Will Take Alaska's Wooden Nickels At NEA Convention.
Wooden nickels, 3500 of them, left over from the Alaska State Fair in Palmer in 1959, will be distributed to the educators attending the National Education Assn convention in Denver, July 1-6.

Word was received by Alma J. Blunck, president of the Palmer Education Assn., that the wooden nickel souvenirs will be distributed a the Alaska booth during the meeting of the 10,000 teachers and other educators from all parts of the nation.

Nome Nugget, October 3, 1958.
Price High On Wooden Nickels
Montclair, N.J. -- The cost of wooden nickels has gone up to 7 cents. The local chamber of commerce has been selling 5-cent pieces made of pine wood to merchants.

The nickels are worth a nickel each to customers. But with the cost of pine wood and handling, merchants have been paying $7 for a hundred of the tokens.

Assuming 10,000 were ordered: 10,000 x 7¢ = $700. 6,500 sold x 25¢ = $1,625, a $925 profit. If only 5,000 were ordered: 5,000 x 7¢ = $350. 1,500 sold x 25¢ = $375, only a $25 profit.

JAMES CARSCADDEN
CORDOVA B-6

Chitina Leader, January 14, 1911.
It is reported that the genial and portly James Carscadden, the well known saloon man, has secured a five-year lease of the well known Cordova House, which has been operated by Thisted & Ross for the past two years, and will take possession on or about April 1st. All of Carscadden's friends will be glad to hear of his new lease, as the house has always been a money maker, and it is stated that as soon as the lease of the Japanese cafe expires, which is located in the same building, he will put in a first class cafe. Good luck, Jimmie, in your new undertaking.

Chitina Leader, January 28, 1911.
In a recent issue of the Leader we mentioned that James Carscadden was to rent or lease the Cordova House in Cordova. We secured the information in an authentic interview, but it seems the plans have fallen through, as in a letter to Tom Parker to Charley Ross, one of the proprietors of the Cordova House, he states that Thisted & Ross will continue to do business at the same old stand and to tell all their friends so.

Chitina Leader, October 20, 1914.
James Carscadden is establishing a lunch counter and delicatessen in the building at B and First streets. He will have a green room for private parties.

Cordova Daily Times, December 21, 1914.
Mrs. Jas. Carscadden died yesterday morning at 7:30. She had not been in good health for some months, but her death was unexpected. Mr. and Mrs. Carscadden have been residents of Cordova almost since the founding of the town, being among the first to take up their residence here.

Chitina Leader, May 4, 1915.
James Carscadden, who recently went to Ship Creek, has decided to establish a restaurant there. His place in Cordova was discontinued yesterday and the material and supplies packed up for shipment to the new location.

STEAMSHIP SAILS FOR KUSKOKWIM RIVER POINTS

Daily Alaska Empire, August 22, 1936.
Steamship William Tapper...sailed at 8 o'clock this morning laden with school teachers, mining men and merchants bound for little villages dotting the shores of the Kuskokwim River.

The steamer also has a full cargo including a new steel dredge for the ***New York-Alaska Corporation*** *with mining properties on Bear Creek near Bethel.* (See the next page!)

Passengers aboard include three Alaska oldtimers. ***Oscar Samuelsen*** *and Robert Gierke, Bethel merchants, and* ***Gil McIntyre***, Eek *merchant.*

CPL. RICHARD C. BUTTON DOG TAG & DISCHARGE PAPERS

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 280. }

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEPARTMENT,
San Francisco, Cal., December 2, 1918.

EXTRACT.

* * * * * *

23. Under the provisions of Circular No. 77, War Department, 1918, Mess Sergeant *Louis Sanbeck* (862245), Corporal *Richard C. Button* (4584461) and Private *Chester V. Brink* (4584463), Company C, 30th Battalion, United States Guards, Fort St. Michael, Alaska, will be discharged from the Army by the commanding officer of that post for the convenience of the Government, their services being no longer required.

* * * * * *

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MORRISON:

H. C. BENSON,
Colonel, Adjutant General.
Department Adjutant.

Corporal Button was posted to Fort St. Michael, Alaska and was discharged there on December 2, 1918, "for the convenience of the Government...services no longer required."

NEW YORK-ALASKA CORPORATION

A SHORT SUMMARY OF GOLD OPERATIONS ON THE UPPER TULUKSAK RIVER, SALMON RIVER, ANIAK, AND BETHEL RECORDING DISTRICTS IN ALASKA:

The first placer gold was found in this area on a sand bar at the junction of the Salmon and Aniak rivers during the first Russian survey of that part of the district.

The earliest gold mining claims of record were on the Tuluksak River in 1906. In 1910-1911 placer gold was discovered on Marvel Creek — a tributary of the Salmon River. A gold rush followed.

Most of the people who poured into the area were from the Iditarod-Flat mining district. Camps and mining villages grew up on the major streams and creeks. Salmon City on the Salmon River at the peak of the gold rush was the center of a population of 2000 to 3000 people. Mining for gold was small scale using primitive methods.

Since then many of the mining claims have passed through a succession of owners. About 1918 the predecessors of the present Tuluksak River drainage area mining operation began to accumulate mining claims. After accurate prospecting and evaluation of properties the first floating dredge (Nyac #1) was moved across country in pieces and assembled. Dredging operations on upper Bear Creek — a major tributary of the Tuluksak-began in 1925.

Under the able management of Mr. James K. Crowdy, President, the New York Alaska Dredging Corporation (from whence "Nyac" was derived) grew until at peak production three other bucket dredges were in use — Nyac #2, Nyac #3, and Nyac #4. Supporting them was a hydro-electric distribution system and various sluicing operations. The number of employees approached 150, with families and support personnel.

The town of Nyac was founded in 1937, with residences, shops, warehouses, recreational facilities, store, and school.

Current operations are under the name Tuluksak Dredging Ltd., an Alaskan family corporation, and are restricted to the use of one floating dredge — Nyac #4, with support equipment and a crew of less than 10 employees.

The above medal has a very flat, frosted finish. It does not test pure on our Sigma Metalytics Precious Metal Verifier. The "bar" is just outside the correct reading. indicating it is very close.

Operating costs are great. Regulations of various governmental agencies have become restrictive and costly. For these reasons it is unlikely that there will be any increase in the size of operations.

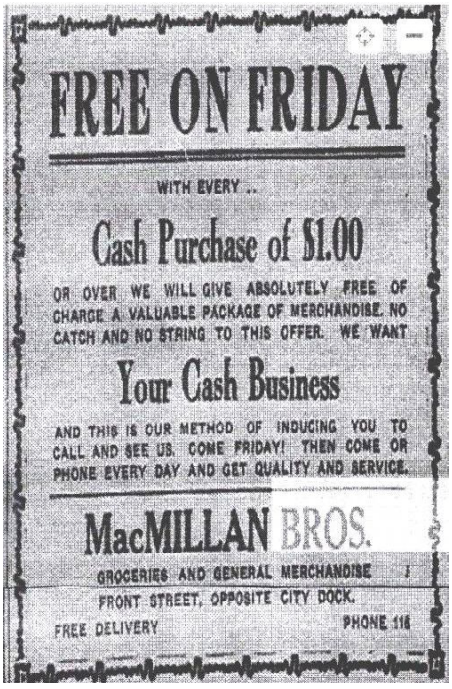
The gold in the commemorative medallion was mined with the dredge Nyac #4. Gold from the upper Tuluksak drainage system is some of the finest found in nature, about 925 fine parts of gold and 75 fine parts of silver per 1000 units of pure gold. This gold was then refined to 999.5 before striking.

This medallion is certified to be #090 of 1000 at the time of original purchase and is so marked. It is further certified that the dies will not be reused in their present form after the production of 1000 units.

MacMILLAN BROS.

JUNEAU B-45.1

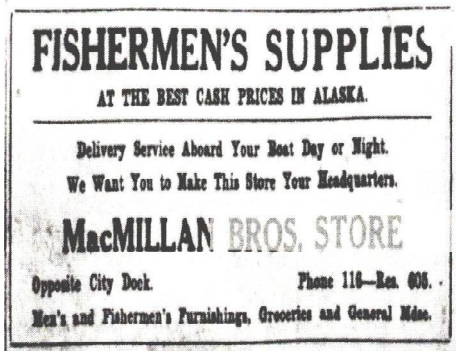
Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, March 14, 1916.
The Case Hotel was opened to the public yesterday and is therefore Juneau's latest and newest hostelery. The Case Hotel is owned by Mrs. M. Case, and is located over the store of MacMillan Bros, in their building opposite the City wharf.


FREE ON FRIDAY
WITH EVERY ..
Cash Purchase of $1.00
OR OVER WE WILL GIVE ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE A VALUABLE PACKAGE OF MERCHANDISE. NO CATCH AND NO STRING TO THIS OFFER. WE WANT
Your Cash Business
AND THIS IS OUR METHOD OF INDUCING YOU TO CALL AND SEE US. COME FRIDAY! THEN COME OR PHONE EVERY DAY AND GET QUALITY AND SERVICE.
MacMILLAN BROS.
GROCERIES AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE
FRONT STREET, OPPOSITE CITY DOCK.
FREE DELIVERY
PHONE 116

Alaska Daily Empire, August 1, 1916.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, January 8, 1919.
JOHN MacMILLAN, OF MacMILLAN BROS. DROPS DEAD THIS AFTERNOON.
John MacMillan, of the firm MacMillan Brothers grocery store on Front Street, dropped dead this afternoon at three o'clock of heart failure in the store. He had been suffering from heart trouble for some time.
Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, January 9, 1919..
Private funereal services for John MacMillan, who died yesterday afternoon of heart failure, will be held Sunday afternoon at the family residence at 564 Harris Street...

Mr. MacMillin was born in Sidney, Nova Scotia, about 39 years ago. He came to Alaska about fifteen years ago and engaged in mining in the Copper River country. He was forced to go South for his health several years ago. For the last five years he has lived in Juneau and engaged in the mercantile business with this brother.


FISHERMEN'S SUPPLIES
AT THE BEST CASH PRICES IN ALASKA.
Delivery Service Aboard Your Boat Day or Night.
We Want You to Make This Store Your Headquarters.
MacMILLAN BROS. STORE
Opposite City Dock.
Phone 116—Res. 606.
Men's and Fishermen's Furnishings, Groceries and General Mdse.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, August 30, 1917.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, January 11, 1919.
The MacMillan Bros. Grocery Store, which has been closed owing to the death of John MacMillan, will open again Monday morning.

BAYSIDE LOUNGE

HOMER B-1a

Homer News, May 19, 1955.
Homer's newest lounge, the Bayside Lounge will open its doors for the first time Friday evening, according to Carl Morton, co-owner of the lounge with A.T. Kirkland.

The two Anchorage men will start the evening at 7:30...From that hour until they close in the small hours of the morning, patrons will be able to enjoy the excellent music of the Bud Alden Trio and partake of the free shrimp that will be available.

The new location has been freshly painted... and a new bar, shipped from Seattle, has been installed. Also new will be the juke box and the cigarette machine of the latest design (my how things have changed).

In addition to the lounge, there will be a liquor store for the convenience of local patrons.

JUNEAU DAYS OF '97

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, April 29, 1913.
Juneau Elkdom will on Friday night put on the great carnival of "The Days of '97." Elaborate preparations are complete for making of this one of the most enjoyable affairs in the history of the town. It is being done in honor of he members of the Legislative Assembly as a means of expressing the goodwill of Elkdom towards Alaska's first law givers. The program is unique in that it will recall with vivid characteristics the splendor of the days of the great stampede when men made frantic with gold fever, yet paused for a moment's relaxation in popular resorts of the day.

Those strenuous days are to be made realistic by converting the large auditorium into a replica of one of the great gambling and dance halls of those days. More than half-a-million dollars in currency ***(Elks' Bull Coin)*** *will be stacked on the tables to be won by the most persistent and lucky sports who may secure entry to the hall. All Elks will be admitted on their lodge cards and will not receive a special invitation. Invited guests will be required to present their invitations at the door. Admission will be one dollar to all gentlemen and ladies will be admitted free with their escorts. In exchange for the admission fee each man will receive $1,000 in* ***Elk's bull coin*** *which he can dispose of to his own satisfaction after entering the hall. There will be places to spend it and if he has a speculative turn of mind he can engage in play at any of the gaming tables. The lady and the gentleman that accumulate the largest amount of currency by 11 o'clock will receive a prize.*

Gentleman are expected to come wearing flannel shirts and ladies in shirt waists. All are invited to leave dignity and good clothes at home.

"A partial list of those who will serve as 'employees' and help to entertain the guests..." and ***"Farmer' McLaughlin will have charge of the gold scales."***

A lively two-step will start up at eight o'clock sharp.

The handsome prizes to be given away at the Elks' feature ball on Friday night are now on display in Sharrick's show windows.

It would be nice to see a sample of the "Elk's Bull Coin."

"FARMER" McLAUGHLIN

Juneau B-49

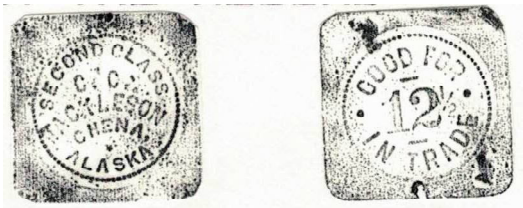
Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, April 10, 1914.
John McLaughlin, the popular manager of the Elks's club, who has been confined to his home for some time with an acute attack of rheumatism, has recovered and is again about town.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, October 8, 1914.
"Farmer" McLaughlin, chief herder for the Juneau Elks, and renowned squirrel hunter almost went into hysterics from laughter today when his attention was called to the challenge to the Elks' bowling talent by the Brunswick bowlers, which appeared in the Dispatch this morning. Between gasps he managed to say:

"Tell them we accept... I've got a bunch of bowlers that and win anything. Beat 'em? It'll be like taking money at a carnival. Of course we'll beat them."

C.O. TACKLESON

Chena B-2



Valdez Daily Prospector, January 2, 1914.
FAIRBANKS - According to a ruling by Judge Fuller when the matter of the reapplication of C.O. Tackleson, of Chena, for a liquor license came up, all of those businesses selling liquor, especially in the districts frequented by natives, will be required to keep tabs on goods sold by them in the original package, for goods to be consumed outside of their place of business. The license of Tackleson was granted today under those provisions, the district attorney having withdrawn all other objections on account of the fact that Tackleson was not held by the grand jury on the charge of assault with a dangerous weapon.

FROM THE KAYE DETHRIDGE ARCHIVES

10-29-90

Dear Kaye,
I have enclosed a set of Wildwood Correctional Center tokens for your use. I hope to acquire a set of Palmer Correctional Center tokens for you soon.

Enclosed is a rubbing of the Spring Creek 10¢ token which according to an inmate living here in Juneau at Lemon Creek Correctional Center is the last denomination in the set currently circulated Spring Creek tokens (making those in active use the 10¢, 25¢ and $1.00 sizes only). I was extremely lucky to get it. He told me had it in his craft shop tool box after I asked him what other denominations might exist. I got the 25¢ and $1 from Spring Creek Correctional Center tokens from him several months ago. He said he heard of a 5¢ Spring Creek token but none were evident when he resided there.

You mentioned that these may actually be used in circulation and indeed they are as coin & U.S. paper currency is not allowed in any Alaska State correctional center. Usually where no tokens are used a computerized debit system is used for purchases both inside the institution and outside transactions are handled the same way by institutional check to a vendor. <u>These tokens are genuine institutional coinage, for internal use, not play money.</u>

Other interesting facts have come to light. Highland Mountain Correctional Center in Eagle River has tokens in 5¢, 10¢ & 25¢ denominations which are currently in use. Meadow Creek Correctional Center (women) also uses Highland Mountain tokens. As I think I mentioned in my last letter, Palmer Correctional Center also uses tokens.

The Spring Creek tokens are going to be almost impossible to get. The assistant superintendent, who was employed in Juneau recently, called me personally and said I could not buy Spring Creek tokens period as the Superintendent had prohibited any tokens from leaving Spring Creek or sales of some to anyone. I lucked out; one set + another 25¢ token left in an inmate's pocket and I got all but the spare 25¢ (his girl friend had it).

I will continue to try to acquire Alaska prison tokens for us. Setting values will be a tough one. I'll leave that to you where tokens are concerned. I'll take a modest amount, either off a bill or in trade.

TOKENS FROM THE ARTICLES

ANCHORAGE

Gold Rush Motor Inn, brass, 32mm **8.00**

Golden Whale, 1 drink, alum. 35mm **5.00**

Gold Rush Hotel, brass, 40mm **8.00**

Gold Rush Hotel/Ramada Inn, brass 40mm **8.00**

AS USUAL, WE WILL SHIP ON APPROVAL AND YOU CAN PAY UPON RECEIPT, ADDING THE ACTUAL POSTAGE TO YOUR PAYMENT.

BETHEL

Oscar Samuelsen, set of 3, 25¢, 50¢, $1. B-4a-c **50.00**
As above, 25¢ only, B-4a **20.00**

EEK

Gil McIntyre, 50¢, B-1b **50.00**

HOMER

Bayside Lounge, 50¢, B-1a **30.00**

Homer Club, 50¢, B-2a **125.00**

JUNEAU

Mayflower, McLaughlin The Farmer, 12½¢, B-49a **300.00**

TOKENS FROM THE ARTICLES

KIVALINA

Reindeer & Trading Co., 5¢ **5.00**

PALMER

First State Fair wooden 25¢ **5.00**

PRISON TOKENS
PCC (PALMER)

Set of 3: 5, 10 and 25 **100.00**

WCC (WILDWOOD-SEWARD)

10 (¢) **25.00**
25 (¢) **35.00**

DOG TAG

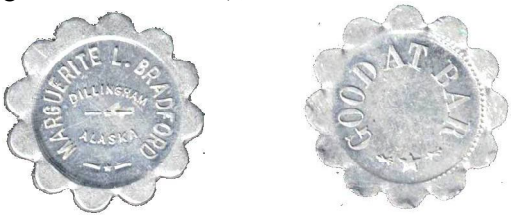
Dog Tag, Discharge Paper, US button. See page 24. **125.00**

OTHER TOKENS

CORDOVA
Northern Drug, 12½¢, B-28c
Chas. Rosswog, 6¼¢, B-34b **50.00**

CLEARY
Willis & Welch, 25¢, B-5a **25.00**

DILLINGHAM
Marguerite Bradford, 5¢, B-1a **200.00**



As above, mint sport, good at bar **12.00**
Lowe Trd. Co., 5¢, B-4a **175.00**

FT. YUKON
H.E. Carter, 50¢, B-2b **500.00**

KETCHIKAN
Abercrobie's 4¢, B-1a **10.00**
Bingle Club, 12½¢, B-5.2a **25.00**
Katchikan Pharmacy, 5¢, B-22a **125.00**

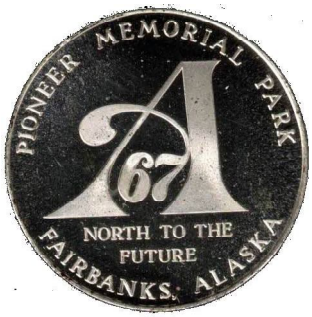
LONG
Edw. Willis, Bingle Long, 25¢, B-2a **25.00**

VALDEZ
Northern, 6¼¢, B-15a **65.00**

FAIRBANKS
Kentucky Fried Chicken, 3 - 1/4 oz. silver ingots. **80.00**

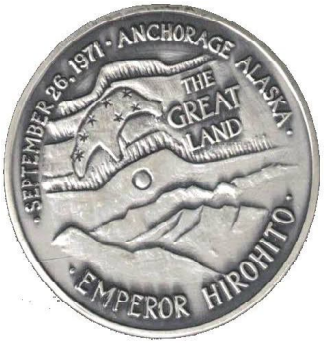
SILVER AT SPOT!!!

With silver going bat-crap crazy, we are left with a dilemma. We have hundreds of Alaska sterling silver medals All these sterling silver medals are now worth more in silver than we have been trying to sell them for in years past. If they weren't selling at the lower price, they certainly are not going to sell at these higher levels. They are destined for the refiners... however.



Or, we can sell them to you. We would sell Alaska sterling silver medals for actual melt value. No picking, no choosing. You might get all of one item, you might get an assortment. The only guarantee is that they will all be sterling. If silver is $90 per ounce, then your cost of 1 oz. of sterling silver would be $83.25 per ounce total weight.

Obviously, this would be time sensitive as the silver price changes by the minute (sometimes by the second). You need to give us a call so we can lock in a price. Let us know how many ounces you want (or how much you want to spend). Since the medals are not in even ounces, we will round down to keep it under your limit.



We will ship them on approval and you can pay upon receipt adding the actual postage to your payment.

Please call 907-452-6461 to lock in your order.

SILVER AT SPOT!!!

ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL SILVER MEDALS

THESE MEDALS ARE .999 FINE PURE SILVER. A SAMPLE OF FOUR MEDALS WEIGH BETWEEN 5.07 OZ. AND 5.30 OUNCES.

WE WILL SELL THESE AT SPOT PRICE, AND WEIGH EACH MEDAL INDIVIDUALLY. WE WILL THROW IN THE MATCHING BRONZE FOR AN ADDITIONAL $10 (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY).

CALL 907-452-6461 TO LOCK IN A PRICE.